



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, Feb. 6, 2006

Media Contact: Press Office
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Hearing: “Armed and Dangerous: Confronting the Problem of Border Incursions”

WHO: Subcommittee on Investigations
Michael McCaul (R-TX), Chairman

WHEN: 3 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2006

WHERE: 311 Cannon House Office Building

WITNESSES

PANEL I

The Honorable Silvestre Reyes
U.S. House of Representatives
State of Texas, 16th District

PANEL II

Elizabeth Whitaker
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs
U.S. Department of State

Mr. David Aguilar
Chief, U.S. Border Patrol
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

PANEL III

Mr. Arvin West
Sheriff, Hudspeth County, Texas

Mr. Esequiel Legarreta
Deputy Sheriff, Hudspeth County, Texas

Mr. Leo Samaniego
Vice Chair, Texas Border Sheriff's Coalition

Mr. T.J. Bonner
President, National Border Patrol Council

BACKGROUND

The Subcommittee on Investigations will examine reported incursions into the United States by individuals appearing to be members of the Mexican military. According to recent media reports, these individuals attempted to assist drug traffickers across the Southwest border on Jan. 23, 2006. There have been as many as 231 border incursions since 1996, according to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection. Members will investigate ways to establish operational control of our Southwest border and will discuss what can be done to prevent such border incursions in the future.

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